USDA United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry | 180 Canfield Street Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3410
Date: July 31, 2007

Clyde Thompson, Forest Supervisor
Monongahela National Forest
USDA Building
200 Sycamore Street
Elkins, WV 26241-3962

Dear Mr. Thompson:

On June 26 and 27, 2007, Rod Whiteman, Bill Oldland and Tom Elliott of my staff conducted an aerial detection survey on the Monongahela National Forest. The purpose of this survey was to detect and sketchmap the location and intensity of areas affected by forest insects, diseases and weather related events since last year's aerial survey. Parallel flight lines spaced approximately 3 miles apart were flown over the Forest (Figure 1).

No defoliation or recent mortality was detected on the northern half of the Forest. On the southern half, gypsy moth caused defoliation was detected south of Marlinton (Figure 2). Approximately 597 acres of light defoliation (30-50%) and 412 acres of heavy defoliation (51-100%) were detected on Forest Service lands while 187 acres of light defoliation and 770 acres of heavy defoliation were detected on adjacent lands.

I would like to thank your FAO, Jim Barker, who reviewed the Project Aviation and Safety Plan for this aerial survey and Patty Felton, who conducted the flight following for the survey.

Please contact Rod Whiteman at 304-285-1555, or Rick Turcotte at 304-285-1544 if you have any questions concerning gypsy moth control on the MNF.

Sincerely,

ROBERT G. LUECKEL
Field Representative
Morgantown Field Office

Enclosures

Cc: District Ranger, Cheat RD
District Ranger, Gauley RD
District Ranger, Greenbrier RD
District Ranger, Greenbrier RD
District Ranger, Marlinton & White Sulphur Springs RDs
District Ranger, Potomac RD
Glen Juergens, Silviculturist
Butch Sayers, WVDA